

Social Media Policy for Public Use

Because communication via Newaygo County social media sites serve as a limited public forum, the County reserves the right to reject or remove (if possible) any content that is deemed in violation of this policy or any applicable law. User-generated posts will be rejected or removed when the content:

- Contains comments or hyperlinks not directly related to the business or work of this department or to the particular social media content being commented upon
- Is defamatory, threatening, profane, obscene, violent, bullying, sexual or harassing
- Promotes, fosters, or perpetuates hate or discrimination on the basis of any legally protected category including religion or creed, race, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, physical or mental disability, medical condition, sexual orientation, marital status, gender identity, gender expression, genetic characteristics or information, military or veteran's status, or any other category protected by federal or state law, including association with individuals with these protected characteristics or perception that an individual has one or more of these protected characteristics.
- Contains solicitations of commerce. Do not post advertisements, prize contests, promotions to like a page or giveaways. This includes promotion or endorsement of any financial, commercial, or nongovernmental agency.
- Contains comments in support of or opposition to political campaigns or ballot measures
- Contains personal identifying information such as address, phone number, email address, social security number or other sensitive personal information
- Contains details about an ongoing investigation or legal or administrative proceeding that could prejudice the
 processes or could interfere with an individual's rights and may interfere with or compromise current
 investigations, police tactics, and the safety and security of public safety and/or public systems
- Promotes or encourages or appears to promote or encourage the use or possession of illegal behaviors or activities
- Distributes copyrighted photographs, music, video, graphics, or other content without the express permission of the copyright holder or that violates the legal ownership interests or another party
- Defames or defrauds anyone including financial, commercial, or nongovernmental agencies
- Contains documents of any kind like invoices, personnel lists, rosters, etc.
- Posts or links that contain malicious software (malware) such as viruses, worms, trojans, rootkits, spyware, adware or any other unwanted software
- Multiple or repetitive posts will be considered spam, will be archived, and may be hidden or removed

Do not report emergencies or ask for assistance on any Newaygo County social media site. In cases of emergencies, call 911.

By posting on a Newaygo County social media site, you agree to follow these terms. Newaygo County is not responsible for and neither endorses nor opposes comments placed on this site by the public. Commenters are personally responsible for their own comments, username, and any information they post to this page. Content may be removed that does not follow the above guidelines.

Also, keep in mind that the County's social media channels are internet pages that are owned and operated by social media companies. All of these companies have their own policies and standards regarding what may or may not be posted and the actions they may take with regard to unauthorized posts.

Approval: 04/12/2023 Motion Number: 23-148

Revised: